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DEPT. OF TRANSPORTATION
DOCKETS

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November 5, 2001

National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
400 Seventh Street, S.W.
Docket Room
Washington, DC 20590

Re: Docket Number NHTSA- 2001-9628 and 9630

To Whom It May Concern:

For several years I have observed that European Ferrari 550 Maranello's have routinely been imported into the United States since 1996 and desiring to tour Europe with my son, I purchased in May of this year a 2001 model 550 Maranello.

Having completed our journey in July, I looked forward to returning home with my new car. You can only imagine my dismay to learn that after five (5) years of accepting the "conversion" of European models the Department of Transportation, without any notice to the contrary, was reassessing its position.

Believing this to be a simple delay, I have waited patiently for common sense to prevail; however, the time has come to put in writing some basic facts:

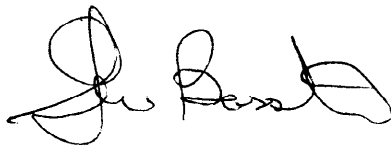
1. In July 2001 I toured the Ferrari factory. I observed that the plastic covers that protect the cars on the assembly line were different colors for United States and European cars. When asked, the production supervisor indicated that the different colors were used so that the workers would know which destination the car was assembled for, in order to decide, for example, to use a yellow or amber light during manufacture. I suggest to you, if the people who build these cars every day cannot tell the difference without color markers, the cars are substantially similar.
2. The car I purchased is a Ferrari 550 Maranello. The cars sold in the United States are called Ferrari 550 Maranello, common sense would indicate they are substantially similar. If not, they would be designated differently. I am certain a jury looking at both United States and European cars would be unable to determine which is which.

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3. Ferrari North America at first said the car (European version) could not be converted. In Ferrari's next letter, Ferrari says the conversion would be "difficult and expensive". Even if the Department of Transportation is foolish enough to agree with Ferrari, remember doing the "difficult and expensive" is an American tradition and not outside the rules of import cars.
4. I am appalled at the way the Department of Transportation has stretched the rules to benefit Ferrari North America by extending the time deadline after comment periods have expired, for example, as well as accepting arguments which are at the very least misleading, if not outright fraudulent.
5. The Department of Transportation has since 1996 approved the importation of 550 Maranellos. No one has at any time suggested that the 2001 model is different in any way, significant or otherwise. To refuse entry to my car simply because it is one year newer, although exactly the same is clearly discrimination.

The Department of Transportation should be estopped by its previous actions from opposing importation of 2001 cars without reasonable prior notice. Private citizens are experiencing substantial monetary damage as a result of the Department of Transportation's actions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "G. Bosstick", with a stylized, looping flourish at the end.

Gerald W. Bosstick